

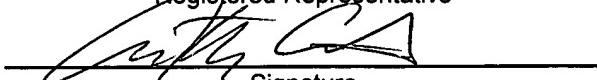
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Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D., Reg. No.:46,193

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Our Case No. 9281-4138
Client Reference No. N US 01701

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Ooshima et al.)
Serial No. 09/885,871)
Filing Date: June 20, 2001)
For: "Spin-Valve Type Thin Film Magnetic Element")
Examiner: Julie A. Watko)
Group Art Unit: 2652)
)

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF MAY 11, 2004

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313 - 1450

Dear Sir:

This is in Response to the Patent Office Action, mailed May 11, 2004 in the above referenced application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, reexamination and allowance of claims 1 – 3, 5, 6 and 8 – 19 in view of the following claim amendments and remarks.

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AUG 17 2004

Technology Center 2600

Application No.09/885,871
Reply to Office Action of May 11, 2004

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.